

"We can make our minds so like still water that beings gather about us that they may see, it may be, their own images, and so live for a moment with a clearer, perhaps even with a fiercer life because of our quiet."

-- W.B. Yeats



I make functional pottery in an effort to preserve local culture in our modern throw-away society. My main goal is to inspire other people to make their own creative work. Human beings have always worked with their hands. We are creators.

We need both creativity and Nature to be healthy and whole human beings. Making and using handmade pottery is one way to bring Nature and culture together in human life. I intend my work to affect people who use it the way the green countryside affects someone who normally lives in the city: The fresh air and the green of the trees and grasses restores the soul and refreshes the spirit. If my work can do this, in a small way, it is successful in my mind.

EDUCATION

2003 Established Kiln & pottery in Mashiko. Studying the cycles of Nature, farming, & their relationship to traditional pottery making

2000-03 Three year apprenticeship with Tatsuzo Shimaoka (National Living Treasure) in Mashiko, Japan

1998 April 2nd study trip to Japan. Attended "MingeiSota" opening, curated by Warren MacKenzie. Traveled to pottery centers & museums. Preparations to study in Mashiko.

1993 March Traveled to Japan to study in Zen temples at Shikoku & Kyushu. Also researched Japanese & Korean pottery.

1991-99 Resident Artist, Northern Clay Center

1991-98 Northern Clay Center & Continental Clay Workshops: Warren MacKenzie, Bob Brisco, Randy Johnston, Jan McKeachie-Johnston, Matt Metz, Jeff Oestreich, Linda Christensen, Pete Pinnel, John Reeve & Linda Sikora

1990-91 University of Minnesota, studied ceramics with Curt Hoard and Mark Pharis

1983-90 Studied Soto Zen Buddhism & meditation with Dainin Katagiri Roshi in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

1972-76 Central Michigan University, B.S.W.

PROFESSIONAL HONORS

1999 Jerome Travel-Study Grant.

1998 Asian-American Renaissance Jerome Foundation Career Development Grant For Emerging Asian American Artists.

1996 Northern Clay Center - Jerome Artist Project Grant.



All of my work is made on a Korean kickwheel. I use Shigaraki clay, which is unglazed on the outside, and Mashiko clay and traditional Mashiko glazes and Shino. I also use Zogan inlay & Hakame slip.



I fire a modern, highly efficient, woodkiln using waste wood for fuel, which is friendly to the environment.



Kiln Offering Altar

"To the ambitious for whom neither the bounty of life nor the beauty of the world suffice to content, it comes as penance that life with them is squandered and that they possess neither the benefits nor the beauty of the world. And if they are unable to perceive what is divine in Nature which is all around them, how will they be able to see their own divinity, which is sometimes hidden." - Leonardo Da Vinci



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益子

MASHIKO

生きる窯



IKIRU KILN

"Ikiru" is from the Kurosawa film of the same name and

means:

"To Live!"

Woodfired Pottery

Made in Mashiko

By

Lee Love